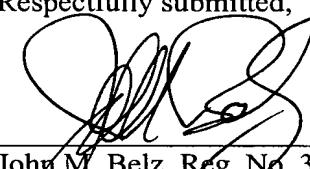


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the October 23, 2006, Office communication, the invention of Group I, claims 1-4, is elected. The species of the invention as represented by Figure 1 is also elected. Claims 2 and 3 read on the elected species of the invention. Further, claims 2 and/or 3 are generic to several of the species listed in the Office communication, including the species of the invention represented by Figures 1-2, Figures 7-13, Figure 15-17, and Figures 19-21.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any extension of time fees pursuant to 37 CFR 1.17(a)-(d) associated with this communication and to credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 12-1216. A duplicate copy of this Response is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Belz, Reg. No. 30,359
LEYDIG, VOLK & MAYER
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005-3960
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date: *21 Dec 2006*

JMB/tdh